

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Claim 27 is cancelled herein.

Claims 1, 7, 15-17, 20, 22, and 24-26 were rejected in the *Office Action* as anticipated by Lane (US 5846275, hereinafter *Lane*) under 35 USC §102(b) and/or obvious in light of *Lane* in view of Seeley (US 6,530,977, hereinafter *Seeley*) under 35 USC § 103(a).

Claims 2-6, 8-14, 18-19, 21, 23, and 27 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of (allowable) claim 27, and now recites a “scrubber interface device including an insulated insert portion.” The Applicants submit that claim 1 and all claims depending from claim 1 are now allowable.

Claim 4 is amended herein to comport with amended claim 1.

Claim 8 (objected to in the *Office Action*) is rewritten herein as an independent claim incorporating the limitations of former claim 1 (from which claim 8 previously depended). The Applicants submit that claim 8 and all claims depending from claim 8 are now allowable.

Claim 20 is amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of (allowable) claim 27, and now recites an “interface device including an insulated insert portion.” The Applicants submit that claim 20 and all claims depending from claim 20 are now allowable.

Claim 26 is amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of (allowable) claim 27, and now recites a “scrubber interface device including an insulated insert portion.” The Applicants submit that claim 26 is now allowable.

Conclusion

Allowable subject matter, as identified in the *Office Action*, has been incorporated into each and every pending claim. The Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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